

REMARKS

As an initial matter, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's determination that claims 2 and 3 include allowable subject matter (Office Action dated September 30, 2005, paragraph 3).

Claims 1-3 have been amended.

Claim 1 was amended to recite that the air flow passage is "inside the probe" as supported in the specification on page 9, lines 16-17. Claim 1 was also amended to incorporate the shielding parts recited in original claim 2, and to more particularly recite the the filter and the separation space.

Claim 2 was amended to account for the incorporation of subject matter into claim 1.

Claim 3 was amended to be more definite, by reciting "a" ratio.

The present amendment adds no new matter to the application.

The Rejections

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Mackay (U.S. Patent 4,934,137) [hereinafter "Mackay"].

In view of the present amendment, Applicants respectfully traverse the present rejections and request reconsideration and allowance of the remaining claims for the following reasons.

Applicant's Arguments

Mackay teaches a turbine engine having an optical pyrometer for temperature measurement within the turbine (Abstract). Mackay fails to teach, or even suggest, a filter disposed in the air flow passage which is inside the probe, as recited in claim 1 as amended.

On the contrary, the filter (50) of Mackay is only shown schematically in Fig. 1 and does not appear contained in any way.

Moreover, Mackay fails to teach, or even suggest, a filter that comprises two or more shielding parts as disclosed in claim 1 as amended. On the contrary, Mackay merely teaches a "2-micron filter" (col. 3, line 59).

For these reasons, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request reconsideration and allowance of claim 1.

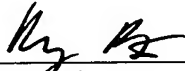
Conclusion

For all of the above reasons, claims 1-3 are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application and withdrawal of the rejection, and a prompt notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Questions are welcomed by the below signed attorney for the Applicants.

Respectfully submitted,

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